

Amendments to the Specification:

Please insert the following prior to line 4 on page 1:

CROSS REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATION

This application is a continuation of pending U.S. Application No. 10/032,866, filed on December 27, 2001 which claims priority to Japanese Patent Application No. 2001-209840, filed on July 10, 2001, and is incorporated by reference herein for all purposes.

Please replace paragraph beginning on line 12, page 1 with the following amended paragraph:

The present invention relates to an operation method of a storage system, and particularly relates to a technique of providing an operation method of a storage which may promptly and easily enlarge a storage area of the storage in a case there is shortage in a remaining amount of the storage area of the storage, and which there is little waste for and may satisfy both a user and a provider of the storage.